

Appln. No.10/722,994; filed 11/26/03

Atty. Docket No.: 10010994-5

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application, as amended.

Claims 1-4, 14-16, 18-23, 25, and 27-28 are pending in the present application.

Claims 1 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,493,639 of Klee et al. ("Klee").

Claims 2-4, 14-16, 22-23, and 27-28 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 18-21 are allowed by the Examiner.

Claims 2, 14, 16, 22, and 27-28 have been amended and claims 1 and 25 have been canceled. Specifically, claim 2 has been amended to include all the limitations of claim 1, now canceled. Claim 27 has been amended to include all the limitations of claim 25, now canceled. Claims 14, 16, 22, and 28 have also been amended to change their dependency (i.e., to depend from amended claims 2 and 27, respectively). Support for the amendments can be found in the application (including the original claims) as originally filed. It is submitted that the amendments do not add new matter.

It is submitted that the above-mentioned amendments to the claims have overcome the Examiner's rejections and objections. Specifically, claims 1 and 25 have been canceled. Claims 2 and 27 have been amended to be independent claims including all the limitations of the now canceled claims 1 and 25, respectively. Claims 3-4 are dependent from amended claim 2 and claims 14-16 and 22-23, as amended, are also dependent from amended claim 2. Moreover,

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amended claim 28 is dependent from amended claim 27. Therefore, the Examiner's rejections and objections have been overcome.

In view of the amendments and arguments set forth herein, it is respectfully submitted that the applicable rejections and objections have been overcome. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-4, 14-16, 18-23, and 27-28, as amended, should be found to be in the condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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